



*VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND
CONSUMER SERVICES*

Agriculture and Forestry Secretariat Strategic Priorities

Presentation to the Information Technology
Advisory Council
August 5, 2012

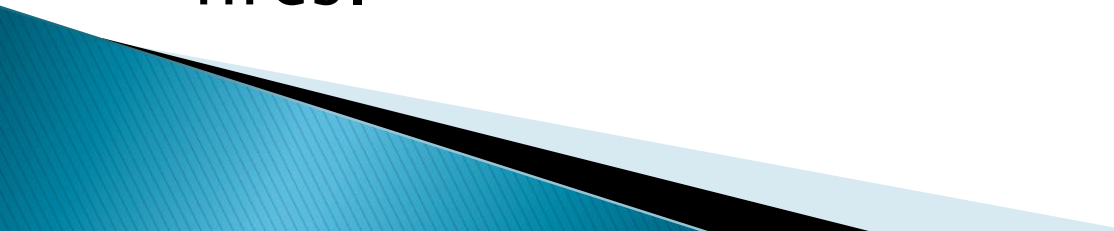
Agriculture and Forestry Secretariat

The agencies in the Agriculture and Forestry Secretariat promote and enhance statewide economic growth in the agricultural and forestry industries, protect forests, promote agricultural environmental stewardship, and protect consumers.

- The agriculture and forestry industries annually contribute more than \$79 billion to the Commonwealth's economy and provide 10.3% of jobs in Virginia.

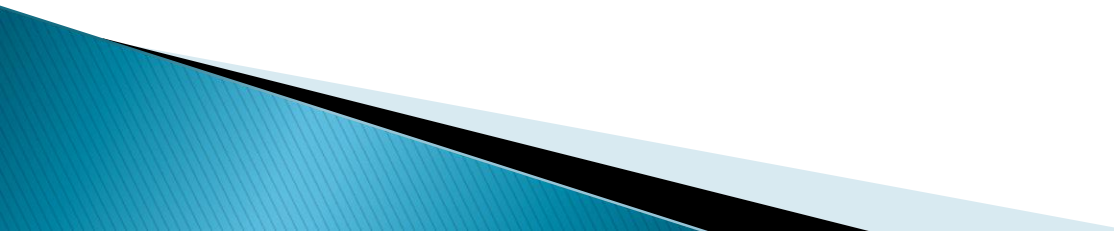
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Key Objectives

- ▶ Prevent and manage animal and poultry diseases.
 - ▶ Increase the market value of Virginia food, agricultural, and forestry products.
 - ▶ Enhance food safety and security programs.
 - ▶ Increase permanently preserved working farms and forests.
 - ▶ Reduce the acres of forests burned by wild fires.
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Key Objectives

- ▶ Increase compliance with best management practices on forest harvest sites.
 - ▶ Increase the number of forestry conservation projects.
 - ▶ Protect consumers.
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Recurring technology themes

- ▶ Supply mobile workforce with technology and communication tools so that staff can work anywhere.
 - Handheld scanning devices to capture animal information
 - Mobile devices and smart phones for business applications and various communication needs
 - Web applications that capture and disseminate information to constituents, customers, government entities and industry
- ▶ Provide web-facing and mobile applications for constituents to register products, provide licenses/permits, pay fees, and locate resources

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Technology priorities align with COV Technology Business Plan Initiatives

1. Improve information-sharing to optimize current business functions and supporting systems
 2. Leverage technology to improve worker productivity and make state employment more attractive to the future workforce
 3. Support educational attainment initiatives—key to achieving state economic development and quality of life goals
 4. Emphasize programs and tools that enable all citizens to interact with government 24x7—safely and securely, and when, how, and where they want it
 5. Expand and support back-office platforms and productivity tools that support Governor's Reform Commission recommendations on streamlining government operations
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